



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Southern District of New York

By CM/ECF

Honorable Sarah L. Cave
United States Magistrate Judge
United States Courthouse
500 Pearl St.
New York, NY 10007-1312

Re: *Riaz vs. Saul*, 20-cv-8418 (JPC/SLC)

The requested extension of time, until **March 22, 2021** to filed the certified administrative record is GRANTED.

The Clerk of Court is directed to close ECF No. 11.

SO ORDERED

1/19/2021


SARAH L. CAVE
United States Magistrate Judge

Dear Judge Cave:

This Office represents Andrew Saul, the Commissioner of Social Security (Commissioner) in the above-referenced action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), challenging a decision by the Commissioner to deny plaintiff's application for program benefits. The Commissioner is to file a certified administrative record (CAR) by January 21, 2021. The undersigned respectfully requests a 60-day extension of this deadline to March 22, 2021, to file the CAR.

This is the Commissioner's first request for an extension of the deadline to file this certified administrative transcript. The extension is necessary because teleworking and other temporary workplace changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic have significantly impacted the operations of the Social Security Administration's Office of Appellate Operations (OAO) and materially affected its ability to prepare CARs, including obtaining transcriptions of hearing recordings from private contractors. Over the past few months, OAO has redesigned its business process to allow for a mostly virtual CAR preparation process, and has worked and continues to work to expand and improve this process. Although the current process has improved and increased CAR production, challenges remain, including rising court case filings, as well as staffing and processing problems with transcript typing service contractors. OAO asks for continued patience as it strives to resolve these issues.

Lastly, Plaintiff consents to the requested extension.

Thank you for Your Honor's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

AUDREY STRAUSS
Acting United States Attorney

By: Ariella Zoltan
Ariella Zoltan
Special Assistant United States Attorney
c/o Social Security Administration
Office of General Counsel
26 Federal Plaza, Room 3904
New York, NY 10278
Tel.: (212) 264-2217
Fax: (212) 264-6372
ariella.zoltan@ssa.gov

cc: Howard Olinsky, Esq.